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Mandated areas: economic and social development

Report of the Workshop on Data Collection and Disaggregation for Indigenous Peoples**

Summary

The Workshop on Data Collection and Disaggregation for Indigenous Peoples was convened in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2003/300, following a recommendation of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at its second session. Data collection was identified as an urgent priority by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at both its first and second sessions. In response to the Council's decision the Workshop was held from 19 to 21 January 2004.

The Workshop was attended by 36 experts from the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations, Governments, indigenous organizations and academia. The Workshop discussed a number of case studies and examined challenges and made recommendations concerning data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples.

In its recommendations, the Workshop promotes better data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples for the consideration of the Permanent Forum at its third session.

* E/C.19/2004/1.

** The present document is submitted after the slotted date owing to required consultations with the Bureau of the Workshop subsequent to the meeting.

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I. Introduction

1. At both its first and second sessions, the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues identified as a major methodological challenge inadequate data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples on the recommendation of the Permanent Forum at its second session[1] of the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2003/300:

(a) Authorized the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to convene, as an initial step, a three-day workshop on the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples, with the participation of three members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues; experts from United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, including both statistics experts and focal points on indigenous issues; the secretariat of the Forum; experts from indigenous peoples organizations with expertise related to the collection of data concerning indigenous peoples; two academic experts in the field; and interested States;

(b) Authorized the provision of all necessary conference facilities for the workshop;

(c) Decided that the workshop would produce a report containing recommendations for consideration by the Forum at its third session, in 2004.

II. Organization of work

A. Attendance

2. In accordance with the decision of the Permanent Forum to facilitate the workshop, the following Permanent Forum members attended the Workshop: Ida Nicolaisen, Zinaida Strogalschikova and Parshuram Tamang.

3. The Workshop was attended by experts from the following 11 United Nations system and other intergovernmental organizations: Council of Europe, Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), International Labour Organization (ILO), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO) and the World Bank. The Workshop was also attended by experts from three Member States, experts from three indigenous organizations and academic institutions and three academic experts from other institutions. The attendance list is contained in annex IV to the present report.

B. Documentation

4. At the commencement of the Workshop, the participants had before them a provisional agenda, a provisional programme of work and documents prepared by participating experts. Documentation made available for the Workshop is listed in annex III. It is also available on the web site of the secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (www.un.org/esa/socdev/pfii/news/htm).

C. Opening of the meeting

5. At the opening of the Workshop, a statement was made on behalf of the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development. The Officer-in-Charge of the Statistical Division also made an opening statement.

D. Election of officers

6. Ida Nicolaisen, Permanent Forum member, was elected Chairperson. Lee Swepston and Cora Voyageur were elected Rapporteurs.

E. Adoption of the agenda and programme of work

7. The Workshop considered its agenda on the basis of the provisional agenda as the agenda of the session. The agenda is contained in annex I.

8. The Workshop was conducted in plenary meetings. Annex II contains the programme of work, and includes the names of participants who served as panellists.

F. Adoption of the report

9. On 21 January 2004, the Workshop adopted the present report by consensus. The recommendations appear in section V.

G. Closure of the Workshop

10. The meeting was closed after the adoption of the recommendations in the final plenary on 21 January 2004.

III. Observations

11. At the opening of the Workshop, the Officer-in-Charge of the Statistics Division noted that consideration of the issue of indigenous peoples and data collection was ground-breaking work. The collection of reliable data would allow judgements to be made about the effectiveness of development programmes that had a direct impact on the quality of life of the world's indigenous peoples. Indigenous issues were the important emerging theme in social statistics. The Chairperson said that the Workshop was a useful exercise, which could aid the mainstreaming of indigenous peoples issues within the international system.

12. Many participants agreed that data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples posed unique challenges in terms both of developing data for global comparative purposes and of developing data that was useful at a microlevel for indigenous peoples.

13. Participants underlined that qualitative and quantitative data should be combined in a way that would make it possible to conceptualize the problem in question and to understand its underlying causes. Research should be carried out in

partnership with indigenous peoples and the use of qualitative data in the form of case studies, reports of special rapporteurs, community testimonies, etc., would allow Governments, non-governmental organizations, indigenous organizations and the United Nations system to bring in their experience and expertise. Many experts agreed that case studies provided opportunities, which could often be extrapolated into broader lessons. Case studies allowed for the use of both qualitative and quantitative data, which provided a holistic view of the welfare of distinct peoples. They took stock of both similarities and variations. At the same time, case studies could pose problems because of the lack of standardized data to compare with the rest of the (non-indigenous) population. Many participants agreed that a wide range of sources and types of data were desirable in building a complete profile of a people and noted the desirability of having trained indigenous peoples engaged in the full range of work concerning data collection, such as planning, collecting, analysing and report writing.

14. An initial discussion was held concerning the concept of "indigenous". It was noted that there were regional differences of opinion when it came to the concept of "indigenous" and that the terms "tribal" or "ethnic group" were also used. Within the context of the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples it had been decided not to adopt any formal definition of the term, and self-identification had been stressed. ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, 1989, provided the spectrum of coverage of the Convention indicating that it applies to tribal peoples and to "peoples in independent countries who are regarded as indigenous on account of their descent". For many the understanding of "indigenous" provided in the Study on the Problem of Discrimination against Indigenous Populations by Jose Martinez-Cobo was also a useful basis (this understanding is reproduced in a document prepared for the Workshop). Many participants agreed that it was crucial to recognize the right to self-identify as part of the right of self-determination, although many of them also noted that there were a lot of complexities concerning self-identity. Many suggested that indigenous descent should be a pre-requisite for indigenous identity, but further noted that traditional adoption should also be considered and respected.

15. Participants noted the multiple objectives of data collection and disaggregation on indigenous issues. They said that data should help to detect and measure discrimination, inequality and exclusion of indigenous peoples individually and as a group underlining that existing data such as participatory poverty assessments and data used to describe regional disparities within a country could be used more efficiently for this purpose. On the other hand data collection should be culturally specific and data should be relevant to the problems identified by indigenous peoples.

16. Intertwined in all discussions was the nature of discrimination and racism, and how statistics, although seemingly neutral, could be used both for the benefit of and the detriment of indigenous peoples. It was noted that some countries did not collect disaggregated data on ethnic groups on the ground of avoiding discrimination and believed that differentiating between groups might lead to conflict. One expert suggested that it might be better to speak of vulnerable or marginalized groups. It was noted that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, in its Programme of Action, urged States to collect, compile, analyse, disseminate and publish reliable statistic data to assess

regularly the situation of individuals and groups of individuals, victims of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

17. Speakers emphasized the need for culturally specific data and standardized data to ensure that indigenous peoples were provided with data that was useful for them. Data on indigenous peoples was often necessary to access state aid. Disaggregated data was also considered important to ensure access to health services.

18. Indigenous experts noted the challenge posed by increasing indigenous populations where about 50 per cent (e.g., Canada) or more were under the age of 19 years. They emphasized the importance of reliable data to allow for crucial planning for the future. Some noted that in many indigenous families, and increasingly those in urban areas, there was in fact one parent, usually female.

19. Statistical experts noted the importance of consistent standardized data over a long period of time and the need for comparative measurements to be taken on the same population. Many felt that there was a need for more collaboration, and that much data was duplicated unnecessarily. Issues of who owned and accessed data were debated and indigenous experts noted that there was still much mistrust felt by indigenous peoples concerning those issues. It was also noted that organizations paying for research might sometimes exercise censorship of the materials produced.

20. Several participants noted the usefulness of surveys for the collection of qualitative data. It was also noted that qualitative data and human rights indicators were important to assess the true social situation of indigenous peoples. Many indigenous experts agreed, for instance, that information on the quality of land was as important as the amount of land controlled by indigenous peoples.

21. Issues and problems concerning data collection and indigenous peoples included but were not limited to: lack of standardized data, which restricted useful comparisons; ethnic drift, where individuals might change ethnic affiliation owing to reduced fear of discrimination, renewed ethnic pride, marriage, adoption, social relationship, perceived benefit or increased options to identify as mixed race; and problems with people who were not of indigenous descent identifying themselves as indigenous, although this was always considered a tiny fraction of the population.

22. As important as the answers presented were the questions asked to provoke discussion:

- Who are we collecting data for?
- How do we collect the data?
- What should be measured?
- Who should control information?
- What is the data for?
- Why do indigenous peoples in resource-rich areas experience poor social conditions and the lack of social services?
- To what degree is remoteness responsible?

It was pointed out that it was important to remember that data was a tool and not an end in itself and that resource extract industries active in the 1950s and 1960s had left degraded areas and no remaining benefits for local peoples.

23. Participants stressed the need for developing a conceptual framework for rights-based indicators to ensure that the data to be collected would be relevant to indigenous peoples, while allowing for the measurement of issues crucial for indigenous peoples' development and rights, such as control over land and resources, equal participation in decision-making and control over their own development processes.

24. Some case studies dispelled the myth that remote areas inhabited by indigenous peoples were unproductive and cost Governments money. The formal economy did not include the subsistence economies of indigenous peoples, and therefore their economies were invisible. Surveys might be a useful supplement to other forms of data collection. It is important that such tools be designed for the intended audience. Often questionnaires designed for urban populations were of little usefulness to rural or remote peoples. Social support, social integration and social conditions should be included in surveys to ensure they were useful for specific groups. An example was given where the costs of consumer goods in remote areas, proved in collected data, allowed the indigenous peoples to lobby for subsidies and rebates to assist in meeting the high costs of living in their homelands.

25. It was pointed out that from the survey design perspective, the number of questions identifying indigenous populations would compete for space in a questionnaire with the questions needed for all other areas to be measured. It is easier to advocate inclusion of a small number of questions if they are previously identified with clear wording, response categories and coding, sampling considerations, training and supervision instructions, data quality issues, data processing requirements and tabulation plans.

26. Although the added cost to any existing survey, in terms of including measurement of indigenous populations, is not expected to be significant if two or three questions were added and no special sampling was required, it would be important to develop a minimum budget to buy, if necessary, part of the survey and to ensure that the data collected was properly transformed into useful information.

27. It was pointed out that the Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities might provide a guide for standards in dealing with various groups, including indigenous peoples, where territories are inhabited by many different groups.

28. Research should be carried out in partnership with indigenous peoples and the use of qualitative data in the form of case studies, reports of special rapporteurs of United Nations human rights and other bodies, community testimonies, etc. would allow Governments, non-governmental organizations, indigenous organizations and the United Nations system to bring in their experience and expertise.

29. It was emphasized by several speakers that much data on indigenous peoples already existed, although it might be very difficult to access, and that new surveys were not always required to learn about their situation. One speaker detailed research that showed how much such data could be revealed by a conscientious study of existing materials (in this case, Canada and the circumpolar region). Indigenous peoples and communities themselves sometimes carried out data

collection efforts. Data on their situation was often submerged in wider data collection efforts and was not visible. It might also be contained in scientific publications, and data collected by various ministries and not included in generally available form. International organizations often collected a great deal of data on indigenous peoples carrying out technical assistance activities, which they did not publish. The benefit of studying and publishing this existing data was emphasized on several occasions.

30. The importance of returning data to the communities from which it was collected, and of the ownership by indigenous communities of data concerning them, was stressed. Indigenous peoples often felt that they were the objects of study without any benefit to them arising from taking part in such efforts.

IV. Challenges to data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples

31. Some of the challenges identified are as follows:

(a) Data collection was as much a political as a logistical exercise;

(b) Currently available data for the most part did not adequately explain social conditions — there are gaps to be addressed;

(c) Currently available data did not adequately incorporate environmental concerns;

(d) Varying definitions of "indigenous" could pose a problem in collecting data;

(e) Standard forms of questions used would not always accurately reflect the situation of indigenous peoples — for example, indigenous family and social patterns were sometimes very different from the profile of the rest of the population;

(f) Drifting and mobility in ethnic identity provided inconsistencies when comparing the population longitudinally;

(g) Some statistical offices pointed out the inadequate or inaccurate reporting of indigenous identity often as a result of misunderstanding of questions or limited opportunities to identify as belonging to more than one race;

(h) Indigenous peoples who migrated to other countries (either voluntarily or as result of expulsion or fleeing conflict) were often faced with the dilemma of no longer having the opportunity of identifying as indigenous in their new country. This issue was also an issue of the new host country and was increasingly complex because of the increasing amount of migration, both documented and undocumented;

(i) The fact that indigenous peoples often resided in areas affected by war and conflicts posed an additional challenge in terms of data collection;

(j) Collecting statistics on indigenous languages was useful but did not give a complete picture of the population, especially as languages were lost as a result of urbanization, discrimination and other factors. Recording ethnic affiliation remains a problem for statisticians;

(k) Lack of vital or service statistics disaggregated by ethnic group, gender and age group made it difficult to assess adequately the health situation, standard of living, and coverage of health services for indigenous persons, as well as to set priorities for action and the evaluation of impacts on these populations;

(l) The challenge for public health was to translate social and cultural information into practical information to promote the welfare of indigenous communities and individuals;

(m) The economic situation of indigenous peoples was very often underrepresented in official statistics, because they often belonged to informal economies which were reported inadequately;

(n) While some data collection work and dissemination had been done in the Americas and in the circumpolar regions, in particular, limited data had been made available for Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and part of the Pacific;

(o) Some of the challenges could be gleaned from the observations set out in section III above.

V. Recommendations for consideration by the Permanent Forum regarding data collection and disaggregation concerning indigenous peoples

32. In presenting the following recommendations, the Workshop recalls that a requirement of the collection and use of disaggregated data concerning indigenous and tribal peoples is implied through such international instruments as ILO Convention No. 169 concerning Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Pan-American Health Organization resolution CD37.R5, as well as in developing instruments such as the Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and others.

33. The following recommendations pertain to:

- States and intergovernmental organizations, including the organizations of the United Nations system: paragraphs (1)-(6), (9)-(12), (14), (15), (18), (19), (21) and (22);
- States: paragraphs (7), (8) and (13);
- Intergovernmental organizations: paragraphs (16) and (17);
- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, States and indigenous institutions and organizations: paragraph (24);
- Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and the organizations of the United Nations system: paragraph (25);
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations: part of paragraph (10);
- Indigenous organizations: paragraph (20).

(1) The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and other relevant United Nations and intergovernmental bodies should recommend that in all relevant data collection exercises, Member States include questions on indigenous identity with full respect for the principle of self-identification. It is important to develop multiple criteria with local indigenous peoples' active and meaningful participation accurately to capture identity and socio-economic conditions. The Workshop notes the desirability of having long-term, standardized data based on this principle.

(2) Data collection concerning indigenous peoples should follow the principle of free prior and informed consent at all levels and take into account both the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics as established by the United Nations Statistical Commission on the basis of the Economic Commission for Europe's Decision C (47) of 1994 (see annex V to the present report) and the collective rights of indigenous peoples. For indigenous peoples living in voluntary isolation, data collection exercises should not be used as a pretext for establishing forced contact.

(3) Data collection should be in accordance with provisions on human rights and fundamental freedoms, and with data protection regulations and privacy guarantees including respect for confidentiality.

(4) Indigenous peoples should fully participate as equal partners, in all stages of data collection, including planning, implementation, analysis and dissemination, access and return, with appropriate resourcing and capacity-building to do so. Data collection must respond to the priorities and aims of the indigenous communities themselves. Participation of indigenous communities in the conceptualization, implementation, reporting, analysis and dissemination of data collected is crucial, at both the country and international levels. Indigenous peoples should be trained and employed by data-collection institutions at the national and international levels. The process of data collection is critical for the empowerment of the communities and for identifying their needs. Indigenous communities should have the right to have data (primary and aggregated) returned to them, for their own use, noting the importance of the confidentiality of such data, particularly as it applies to individuals who have participated. In conducting data-collection exercises, Governments should involve indigenous peoples from the earliest stages (planning and community education) and ensure ongoing partnerships in collecting, analysing and disseminating data.

(5) Data collection exercises should be conducted in local indigenous languages to the extent possible and, where no written language exists, should employ local indigenous peoples (as translators/interpreters as well as advisors) to assist in the collection process.

(6) Both quantitative and qualitative data should be used and combined to provide a holistic picture of the indigenous situation.

(7) The primary responsibility for ensuring data collection lies with Governments.

(8) Civil and vital registration systems should be explored as additional sources of statistics on indigenous peoples.

(9) For international organizations, data collection should be mainstreamed. It should aim at the formulation of development and other public policies including

those addressing poverty, the full spectrum of the Millennium Development Goals, the "3 by 5 Initiative" on HIV/AIDS of WHO and UNAIDS, to treat 3 million by 2005 and others. It should also be used to assess the impact of development assistance and to promote social dialogue at the national level. It is recommended that:

(a) The United Nations system use and further refine existing indicators, such as the common country assessment indicators, the Millennium Development Goals indicators, and country progress reports, other global monitoring instruments, and the human development indexes, to measure the situation of indigenous and tribal peoples;

(b) The national human development reports, produced through nationally-owned, editorially independent processes, could systematically include case studies, and should include disaggregated data on indigenous and tribal peoples;

(c) Participatory poverty assessments of the World Bank could collect and disaggregate data on the poverty situation of indigenous and tribal peoples in all its dimensions, including those defined by indigenous and tribal peoples themselves;

(d) Multiple Indicator cluster surveys as well as demographic health surveys of UNICEF should be used beneficially to collect data on indigenous peoples.

(10) The rights-based approach to development requires the development of a conceptual framework for rights-based indicators that are relevant to indigenous and tribal peoples. It should take into account not only a process of full, active and meaningful participation of indigenous and tribal communities at all stages of data collection, but also indicators that are of particular significance to indigenous peoples, such as access to territories (land and waters) and to resources, participation in decision-making, as well as issues of discrimination or exclusion in the areas of economic, social and cultural rights. Rights-based indicators to be used for data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples should be capable of reflecting the current status of the realization of their human rights, be useful in policy articulation and prescription and should measure both the process and the outcome of development activities. They should be able to measure dimensions of the process of the realization of human rights, such as participation, non-discrimination, empowerment and accountability. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Working Group on Indigenous Populations should be encouraged to contribute to the elaboration of rights-based indicators to measure the situation of indigenous peoples. This would also allow for a broad participation of indigenous peoples and others in the discussion and design of such indicators.

(11) In analysing data, the full diversity and demographic profile of indigenous communities should be taken into account, including gender, children, youth and aged persons, as well as people with disabilities.

(12) In data collection methods and analysis, it should be borne in mind that indigenous peoples live not only in remote and rural areas but also in urban areas and in a wide variety of situations in various countries, and that these peoples are often divided by national borders. Moreover, it should be taken into account that

they are increasingly migrating across borders as the result of globalization and conflict and this reality needs to be reflected in data questions, methods and analysis.

(13) In conducting all relevant data collection exercises, Governments should include indicators to capture the full ethnic and cultural diversity of specific regions to allow the context of the local indigenous peoples to be fully revealed.

(14) International agencies and Governments should support the development of and further encourage Governments in the development, collection and analysis of data on indigenous and tribal peoples in regions where this is less developed, in particular in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and part of the Pacific, using extensions of exiting systems where appropriate.

(15) The data collected should be specific to the situation of indigenous and tribal peoples, while also allowing comparability with other national and international populations.

(16) A source of data to be explored is the material collected by United Nations agencies, funds and programmes while carrying out development projects. Such material is rarely centralized or publicly available. Agencies should be encouraged, during their development projects and other activities, to collect data in a way that will make them easier to share and publicize.

(17) It is recommended that intergovernmental organizations, funds and programmes launch a coordinated data collection exercise in one or more countries, with the aim of developing a common approach and of maximizing the impact of development assistance concerning indigenous and tribal communities and peoples.

(18) In developing a picture of the living conditions of various indigenous and tribal peoples, there is a need to ensure that environment is adequately included in data collected.

(19) Collaboration between national, regional and international data-collecting bodies is strongly recommended to advance this issue at the global level.

(20) Indigenous controlled statistics initiatives are encouraged to work as part of the whole data collection system at the national level to ensure that data collection systems do not become disjointed or possibly lead to the fragmentation of national systems.

(21) Data collection should include (but not be limited to):

(a) Capturing the statistics of nomadic, semi-nomadic and migrating peoples and peoples in transition, as well as displaced persons;

(b) Capturing information on particularly vulnerable sections of indigenous and tribal peoples.

(22) Policy makers and those designing data collection exercises should be sensitized and trained regarding the nature of the populations being surveyed and the purposes for which data is being sought.

(23) It is recommended that, as one of the next steps, a workshop be organized, with the participation of indigenous peoples, to develop methodological tools, guidelines, examples of questions that could assist in identifying indigenous

and tribal peoples and indicators for data collection concerning indigenous and tribal peoples.

(24) There is an immense amount of data already in existence in national surveys, research institutions, scientific publications and, in particular, data generated by indigenous organizations and communities. The Workshop recommends that as part of the next steps in this process:

(a) Underused sources of statistics at the national level be fully exploited;

(b) The Permanent Forum invite an appropriate institution to conduct a literature watch to capture existing data in scientific reviews and elsewhere relevant to indigenous peoples and that it also examine the feasibility of identifying an institution to serve as a clearing house for all existing data on indigenous issues;

(c) Indigenous institutions and organizations be encouraged to generate relevant data and to coordinate their activities in this field and in partnership with Governments to the extent possible.

Notes

[1] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 23* (E/2003/43), chap. I, sect. A, para. 1, draft decision 1.

Annex I

Agenda

1. The importance of statistics on indigenous peoples for policy formulation at national and international levels. For statistical data collection and analysis purposes who are indigenous peoples?

2. Data collection and analysis:

   (a) Sources and methods of data collection on indigenous peoples (censuses, surveys and administrative records, etc.);

   (b) Major challenges in the collection, disaggregation and dissemination of statistics on indigenous peoples (definition/terminology, quantity/quality of existing data, adequacy of methods, intercountry comparisons, costs, etc.).

3. Case studies: Experiences in the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistics on indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels (including coverage, sources and methodologies applied).

4. Stakeholders: Who are the stakeholders in data production and usage? Participation of stakeholders in the development and planning of statistical work on indigenous peoples. Appropriate participation of indigenous experts and organizations in planning and development of statistical work. This will include development of data collection instruments, data collection, tabulation, analysis and dissemination.

5. Guidelines to collecting intracountry and intercountry comparable data. Moving towards optimum instruments and methods of data collection and analysis, including developing standardized questions to include in censuses, surveys and administrative records. Which common questions would suit each of the above methods of data collection? Strategic packaging, displaying, targeting, dissemination of statistical information.

6. Recommendations for consideration by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

Annex II

Programme of work

Monday, 19 January 2004

10 to 10.30 a.m.

- Opening of the Workshop on behalf of the Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, Johan Schölvinck, and by the Officer-in-charge of the Statistics Division, Willem DeVries, Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Election of the Chairperson and Rapporteurs

10.30 a.m. to 12 noon

Agenda item 1. The importance of statistics on indigenous peoples for policy formulation at national and international levels. For statistical data collection and analysis purposes who are indigenous peoples?

Panel: Lee Swepston, International Labour Organization

John G. Scott, secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Discussion

12.15 to 1 p.m.

Agenda item 2. Data collection and analysis:

(a) Sources and methods of data collection on indigenous peoples (censuses, surveys and administrative records, etc.);

(b) Major challenges in the collection, disaggregation and dissemination of statistics on indigenous peoples (definition/terminology, quantity/quality of existing data, adequacy of methods, intercountry comparisons, costs, etc.)

Panel: Cora J. Voyageur, University of Calgary (Canada)

Jeremiah Banda, Department of Economic and Social Affairs/ Statistics Division

Discussion

3 to 4 p.m.

Agenda item 2. Data collection and analysis (continued)

4 to 6 p.m.

Agenda item 3. Case studies: Experiences in the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistics on indigenous peoples at the national, regional and international levels (including coverage, sources and methodologies applied)

Panel: Valeri Stepanov, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Edilberto Loaiza, United Nations Children's Fund

Isabel Kempf, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Discussion

Tuesday, 20 January 2004

10 to 11 a.m.

Agenda item 3. Case studies (continued)

Panel: Gerard Duhaime, Laval University (Canada), Department of Social Sciences

Liudmilla Eroshina, State Committee on Statistics (Russian Federation)

Discussion

11.15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda item 4. Stakeholders: Who are the stakeholders in data production and usage? Participation of stakeholders in the development and planning of statistical work on indigenous peoples. Appropriate participation of indigenous experts and organizations in planning and development of statistical work. This will include development of data collection instruments, data collection, tabulation, analysis and dissemination

Panel: Margaret Walter, University of Tasmania (Australia)

Torunn Petersen, Nordic Saami Institute (Norway)

Jane Gray, First Nations Longitudinal Regional Health Survey (Canada)

Discussion

3 to 4 p.m.

Agenda item 4. Stakeholders (continued)

4.15 to 6 p.m.

Agenda item 5. Guidelines to collecting intracountry and intercountry comparable data. Moving towards optimum instruments and methods of data collection and analysis, including developing standardized questions to include in censuses, surveys and administrative records. Which common questions would suit each of the above methods of data collection? Strategic packaging, displaying, targeting, dissemination of statistical information

Panel: Jorge Condor, Sistema de Informacion de Estadistica de las Nacionalidades y Pueblos del Ecuador

Rocio Rojas, Pan-American Health Organization

Harry Patrinos, World Bank

Discussion

Wednesday, 21 January 2004

10 to 11 a.m.

Agenda item 5. Guidelines (continued)

Panel: Carlos Viteri, Inter-American Development Bank

Enrique Serrano, Comisión Nacional para el Dessarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas (Mexico)

Ferran Cabrero, United Nations Development Programme

Discussion

11.15 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Agenda item 6. Recommendations for consideration by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

3 to 4 p.m.

Agenda item 6. Recommendations (continued)

4 to 6 p.m.

Adoption of the report and closure of the Workshop

Annex III

Documentation

Draft agenda

Draft programme of work

The concept of indigenous peoples (secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues)

The importance of statistics on indigenous peoples for policy formulation at national and international levels (Ethel Alderete, Indigenous Centre for Social and Academic Action, Universidad Nacional de Jujuy, Argentina)

Russian experience in ethnic statistics of indigenous small-numbered peoples of the north (Valeri Stepanov, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences)

Stakeholders in data production and usage (Torunn Petersen, Nordic Saami Institute, Norway)

Paper on data collection and disaggregation on indigenous peoples (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights)

The first nations longitudinal regional health survey (First Nations and Inuit Regional Longitudinal Health Survey)

An Australian perspective (Margaret Walter, University of Tasmania, Australia)

Iniciativa salud de los pueblos indigenas (Pan-American Health Organization)

World Bank contribution

Sistema de indicadores de las nacionalidades y pueblos (Jorge Condor, Sistema de Información de Estadistica de las Nacionalidades y Pueblos del Ecuador)

Issues and challenges (Department of Economic and Social Affairs/Statistics Division)

Perspective of information received and collected within the context of the International Labour Organization

La poblacion indigena a traves de los censos Mexicanos (Enrique Serrano, Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas)

Collection and disaggregation of data concerning America's indigenous people: 2000 (Claudette Bennett, Bureau of the Census, United States of America)

Household surveys experiences and challenges in the collection, analysis and dissemination of data on indigenous peoples (Edilberto Loaiza, United Nations Children's Fund)

Data collection and analysis for indigenous peoples in the Russian Federation (Liudmilla Eroshina, State Committee on Statistics, Russian Federation)

Annex IV

Attendance

1.	Alami, Nisreen	United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)
2.	Banda, Jeremiah	Department of Economic and Social Affairs/ Statistics Division
3.	Beavon, Daniel J. K.	Strategic Research and Analysis Directorate, Indian and Northern Affairs (Canada)
4.	Bennett, Claudette	United States Bureau of the Census (United States of America)
5.	Cabrero, Ferran	United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
6.	Condor, Jorge	Sistema de Informacion de Estadistica de las Nacionalidades y Pueblos del Ecuador
7.	Duhaime, Gerard	Laval University (Canada), Department of Social Sciences
8.	Eroshina, Liudmilla	State Committee on Statistics (Russian Federation)
9.	Fall, Yassine	UNIFEM
10.	Gideon, Valerie	First Nations Longitudinal Regional Health Survey (Canada)
11.	Gray, Jane	First Nations Longitudinal Regional Health Survey (Canada)
12.	Hazelwood, Margaret	World Health Organization/Pan-American Health Organization (WHO/PAHO)
13.	Kempf, Isabel	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
14.	Korkeakivi, Antti	Council of Europe
15.	Kourtoum Nacro	United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
16.	Loaiza, Edilberto	United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
17.	Nicolaisen, Ida	Member, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
18.	Patrinos, Harry	World Bank
19.	Pember, Robert	International Labour Organization (ILO)
20.	Pero, Alejandra	UNDP
21.	Petersen, Torunn	Nordic Saami Institute (Norway)
22.	Rai, Navin	World Bank
23.	Rojas, Rocio	WHO/PAHO

24.	Scott, John G.	Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
25.	Sedletzki, Vanessa	UNICEF
26.	Serrano, Enrique	Comisión Nacional para el Desarrollo de los Pueblos Indígenas (Mexico)
27.	Stamatopoulou, Elsa	Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
28.	Stepanov, Valeri	Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Russian Academy of Sciences
29.	Strogalschikova, Zinaida	Member, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
30.	Swepston, Lee	ILO
31.	Tamang, Parshuram	Member, Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
32.	Tournier, Ceal	First Nations Longitudinal Regional Health Survey
33.	Velásquez Nimatuj, Irma	Consultant, Regional Office of UNICEF for Latin America
34.	Viteri, Carlos	Inter-American Development Bank
35.	Voyageur, Cora J.	University of Calgary (Canada)
36.	Walter, Margaret	University of Tasmania (Australia)

Annex V

Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics

Extract from the report of the Statistical Commission on its special session, held in New York from 11 to 14 April 1994[a]

59. The Commission adopted the fundamental principles of official statistics as set out in ECE decision C (47), but incorporating a revised preamble. The preamble and principles, as adopted, are set out below:

Fundamental principles of official statistics

The Statistical Commission,

Bearing in mind that official statistical information is an essential basis for development in the economic, demographic, social and environmental fields and for mutual knowledge and trade among the States and peoples of the world,

Bearing in mind that the essential trust of the public in official statistical information depends to a large extent on respect for the fundamental values and principles which are the basis of any society which seeks to understand itself and to respect the rights of its members,

Bearing in mind that the quality of official statistics, and thus the quality of the information available to the Government, the economy and the public depends largely on the cooperation of citizens, enterprises, and other respondents in providing appropriate and reliable data needed for necessary statistical compilations and on the cooperation between users and producers of statistics in order to meet users' needs,

Recalling the efforts of governmental and non-governmental organizations active in statistics to establish standards and concepts to allow comparisons among countries,

Recalling also the International Statistical Institute Declaration of Professional Ethics,

Having expressed the opinion that resolution C (47), adopted by the Economic Commission for Europe on 15 April 1992, is of universal significance,

Noting that, at its eighth session, held at Bangkok in November 1993, the Working Group of Statistical Experts, assigned by the Committee on Statistics of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific to examine the Fundamental Principles, had agreed in principle to the ECE version and had emphasized that those principles were applicable to all nations,

Noting also that, at its eighth session, held at Addis Ababa in March 1994, the Joint Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers, considered that the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics are of universal significance,

Adopts the present principles of official statistics:

1. Official statistics provide an indispensable element in the information system of a democratic society, serving the Government, the economy and the public

with data about the economic, demographic, social and environmental situation. To this end, official statistics that meet the test of practical utility are to be compiled and made available on an impartial basis by official statistical agencies to honour citizens' entitlement to public information.

2. To retain trust in official statistics, the statistical agencies need to decide according to strictly professional considerations, including scientific principles and professional ethics, on the methods and procedures for the collection, processing, storage and presentation of statistical data.

3. To facilitate a correct interpretation of the data, the statistical agencies are to present information according to scientific standards on the sources, methods and procedures of the statistics.

4. The statistical agencies are entitled to comment on erroneous interpretation and misuse of statistics.

5. Data for statistical purposes may be drawn from all types of sources, be they statistical surveys or administrative records. Statistical agencies are to choose the source with regard to quality, timeliness, costs and the burden on respondents.

6. Individual data collected by statistical agencies for statistical compilation, whether they refer to natural or legal persons, are to be strictly confidential and used exclusively for statistical purposes.

7. The laws, regulations and measures under which the statistical systems operate are to be made public.

8. Coordination among statistical agencies within countries is essential to achieve consistency and efficiency in the statistical system.

9. The use by statistical agencies in each country of international concepts, classifications and methods promotes the consistency and efficiency of statistical systems at all official levels.

10. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributes to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries.

Notes

[a] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 9* (E/1994/29), para. 59.